

Watertown, Sergeant, West James G., 11-Jul-04; Master Sergeant, Tuliau, Tulsa T., 26-Sep-05; Sergeant 1st Class, Acevedoaponte, Ramon A., 26-Oct-05.

Watervliet/Green Island, Specialist, Fisher, David M., 01-Dec-04; West Henrietta, Specialist, Koch, Matthew A., 09-Mar-05; West Seneca, Specialist, Baker, Brian K., 07-Nov-04.

White Lake, Sergeant, Dima, Catalin D., 13-Nov-04; Whitestone, Private 1st Class, Prevete, James E., 10-Oct-04; Williamsville, Private 1st Class, Shuster, Benjamin C., 25-Feb-06.

NUMERICAL ACCOUNTING OF IRAQ WAR
FATALITIES BY STATE (AS OF MAY 22, 2006)

Alabama, 42; Alaska, 9; American Samoa, 5; Arizona, 58; Arkansas, 31; California, 254; Colorado, 33.

Connecticut, 19; Delaware, 11; District of Columbia, 3; Florida, 108; Georgia, 75; Guam, 3; Hawaii, 12.

Idaho, 15; Illinois, 94; Indiana, 49; Iowa, 29; Kansas, 25; Kentucky, 41; Louisiana, 57.

Maine, 12; Maryland, 40; Massachusetts, 36; Michigan, 82; Minnesota, 31; Mississippi, 35; Missouri, 41.

Montana, 10; Nebraska, 23; Nevada, 20; New Hampshire, 10; New Jersey, 43; New Mexico, 17; New York, 117.

North Carolina, 55; North Dakota, 10; Northern Mariana Islands, 3; Ohio, 109; Oklahoma, 42; Oregon, 37; Pennsylvania, 121.

Puerto Rico, 22; Rhode Island, 9; South Carolina, 35; South Dakota, 17; Tennessee, 52; Texas, 217; Utah, 12.

Vermont, 16; Virgin Islands, 3; Virginia, 75; Washington, 46; West Virginia, 17; Wisconsin, 55; Wyoming, 6.

Source: iCasualties.org

COMMEMORATING LOWELL HIGH
SCHOOL'S SESQUICENTENNIAL

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I am deeply honored to rise today in recognition of the sesquicentennial of San Francisco's Lowell High School. The oldest public high school west of the Mississippi River, Lowell has now maintained its stellar reputation for excellence for a remarkable 150 years.

Lowell High School, originally named Union Grammar School, was established in 1856 by the San Francisco School Board. It was the first public secondary school in California. In 1894, the school was renamed to honor the distinguished poet, James Russell Lowell. Over the years, Lowell has relocated its campus twice to accommodate more students. It has occupied its current location near Lake Merced since 1962.

For one and a half centuries, Lowell High School has been a model of academic excellence. Lowell has been recognized as one of the best public schools in the Nation by numerous magazines, including Money, Parade, and Town and Country. This year, Newsweek ranked Lowell 26th among all public high schools in the Nation. The College Board ranked Lowell sixth in the number of Advanced Placement examinations administered in 1996; the school was ranked eighth in 1994. Lowell is also a three-time recipient of the U.S. Department of Education's Blue Ribbon Award.

Today, we honor and thank all current and former faculty and staff who have challenged

and inspired generations of students to reach their full potential. Lowell's magnificent educators have helped their students achieve the highest level of learning and cultivate the strengths needed to succeed. Lowell produces determined students who matriculate at some of our country's most prestigious universities. Lowell's graduates are well equipped to assume the grave responsibility of making the world a better place.

We must also pay tribute to Paul Cheng for a lifetime of academic leadership, including 16 years as principal of Lowell High School. His contributions to San Francisco's schools and students are extraordinary.

San Franciscans take pride in Lowell's mission to foster an environment of superior learning while maintaining the cultural and social diversity that we respect and embrace. I am proud that San Francisco is the home of this impressive academic institution. Let us all join in celebrating and congratulating Lowell on its 150 years of loyal dedication to our Nation's youth.

HONORING WILLIAM "BILL"
GRALNICK

HON. ROBERT WEXLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. WEXLER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the retirement of a great leader in American Jewish community, the Southeast Regional Director of the American Jewish Committee, AJC, William "Bill" Gralnick.

For the past two decades, Bill Gralnick has championed Jewish causes and promoted inter-religious dialogue in south Florida. He has built bridges with the Christian and Muslim communities, advocated for strengthened U.S.-Israel relations, and combated anti-Semitism and intolerance in all its forms. He has brought south Florida law enforcement officials together with local clergy, and arranged for exchanges between Israeli security experts and local police. The exemplary work of the AJC in south Florida is a testament to Bill's commitment, and I thank him for his unwavering dedication, spirit and resolve.

Today, I congratulate Bill Gralnick on his years of achievement with the AJC. Bill has been a beacon of leadership in south Florida, and his efforts have benefited the Jewish community both in our area and beyond. Bill has set a shining example for future generations, and I wish him "mazel tov" and much future success.

PRESIDENT CARTER'S THOUGHTS
ON THE MIDDLE EAST PEACE
PROCESS

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I would like to encourage my colleagues to consider the thoughts of former President Jimmy Carter on achieving a lasting peace in the Middle East.

[From the Nation, May 25, 2006]

HOUSE VOTE HARMS PALESTINE, ISRAEL, U.S.

(By John Nichols)

Jimmy Carter has been blunt: Despite the fact of a Palestinian election result that was not to their liking, the former president says, "it is unconscionable for Israel, the United States and others under their influence to continue punishing the innocent and already persecuted people of Palestine."

Since the political wing of the militant group Hamas swept parliamentary elections in Palestine, the U.S. and Israel have been trying to use economic pressure to force a change of course. Disregarding the democracy that President Bush says he wants to promote in the Middle East, the U.S. has sanctioned policies that have fostered chaos on the Gaza Strip and the West Bank and created increasingly harsh conditions for people who have known more than their share of suffering.

"Innocent Palestinian people are being treated like animals, with the presumption that they are guilty of some crime," argues Carter, a Nobel Peace Prize winner whose involvement in the Middle East peace process has extended across three decades. "Because they voted for candidates who are members of Hamas, the United States government has become the driving force behind an apparently effective scheme of depriving the general public of income, access to the outside world and the necessities of life."

Instead of checking and balancing the president's misguided approach to an election result that displeased him, Congress has added fuel to the fire.

By a lopsided vote of 361 to 37, the House voted Tuesday for the so-called "Palestinian Anti-Terrorism Act," a measure so draconian that even the Bush administration has opposed it.

The legislation, which still must be reconciled with a similar measure passed by the Senate, would cut off all assistance to the Hamas-led Palestinian Authority, and place conditions on humanitarian assistance delivered directly to the Palestinians by non-government organizations. Presidential spokesman Tony Snow, in restating the White House's opposition to the measure says that it "unnecessarily constrains" the flow of essential assistance—food, fresh water, medicine—in a manner that does, indeed, "tie the president's hand" when it comes to providing humanitarian aid.

It also has the potential to encourage, rather than restrain, violence.

Representative Earl Blumenauer, an Oregon Democrat who was one of the few members of the House to argue against the legislation, correctly explained that the approach endorsed by most of his colleagues will strengthen the hand of Palestinian extremists.

"It does little to prioritize on the basis of our strategic interests, and provides no prospect for Palestinian reform coming through the process of negotiations," Blumenauer said of the legislation. "In so doing, it weakens the hands of those who advocate for peace negotiations, and supports those extremists who believe in violence."

Debra DeLee, President and CEO of Americans for Peace Now, which works closely with Israeli groups seeking a peaceful settlement of tensions with the Palestinians, calls the bill "an exercise in overreaching that will undercut American national security needs, Israeli interests, and hope for the Palestinian people, if it's ever signed into law." "We urged the House to craft legislation that was focused and flexible enough to allow the U.S. to respond to Hamas' election victory in a firm, yet responsible, manner," explained a frustrated DeLee. "But by failing